

An Act for Punishment of Blasphemy Fornication Adultery Lib. L. L.
Prophane Swearing and Cursing

Be it Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Ma^{ty} by and with the Advice and Consent of this Present Generall Assembly ^{p. 279} and the Authority of the Same That from and after the publication hereof if any Person or Persons whatsoever Inhabiting or being within this Province shall Blasphem God (That is to say) Curse him or deny our Saviour Jesus Christ to be the Son of God or shall Deny the Holy Trinity the father Son and holy Ghost or the God head of any of the said Three persons or the Unity of the Godhead or shall utter any reproachfull Speeches words or Language Concerning the holy Trinity or any of the three Persons thereof for his her or their first Offence Shall be bored through the Tongue and fined the Sumē of Twenty pounds Sterling to his Sacred Ma^{ty} towards the defraying the County Charge where the said Offence shall be Comitted to be leavied upon his or her Goods and Chattells Lands and Tenements (if any they have) but if Such Offender or Offenders have not goods and Chattells Lands and Tenements to the Value aforesaid then Such Offender or Offenders shall Suffer Six months Imprisonment without Baile or Mainprize and for every Second Offence whereof every such Offender or Offenders shall be Legally Convict he she or they so offending as aforesaid shall be stigmatized in the forehead with the Letter B: and to be fined fourty Pounds Sterling to the uses aforesaid and in Case he she or they so Offending as aforesaid shall not have goods & Chattells Lands and Tenements to the Value aforesaid every such Offend^r or Offenders shall Suffer Imprisonment for the Space of one whole Year without Baile or Mainprize as aforesaid and for every third offence whereof any Such Offender or Offenders Legally Convicted as aforesaid he she or they so Offending shall Suffer Death with Confiscation of all his her or their Goods & Chattells to his Maty his heires and Successors And be it further Enacted by the Authority advice and Consent aforesaid That Every person or persons Comitting fornication and being thereof Convicted shall for every time so Offending be fined ^{p. 280} (by the Court before whom such Matter shall be brought) to his Sacred Ma^{ty} in the Sumē of Twenty Shillings Sterl or four hundred pounds of Tobbacco to be leavied &c. for and Towards the defraying the County leavy where Such fact shall be Comitted or receive Corporall punishment by whipping att the discretion of the said Court not Exceeding thirty nine lashes and that every Person or Persons Comitting Adultery and being thereof Legally Convict shall be fined as aforesaid for the uses af^d in the Sumē of fourty Shillings Sterl or Eight